His Lecture in the City Last Evening on "Decorative Art."

PUBLIC.

How He Appeared on the Stage -- A Talk With the Man.

LAST NIGHT'S LECTURE. Oscar Wilde has come, has lectured and is ready

to depart. Public curiosity has, to a certain extent been satisfied. It is hardly possible that those who listened to the lecture last night will become converts to æstheticism, for the speaker disgusted more than he pleased his audience. While some pretty flights were indulged in, and

some few sensible sentiments expressed, on the whole the lecture was tame and its delivery horrible. New ideas were exceedingly scarce and the composition of those expressed poor. The audience was not large, yet it was composed

of some of our most prominent citizens. At 8:10 the ring of a bell signaled the rising of the curtain. Then was presented to view a stage carpeted, containing parlor furniture, two easles, on which were placed two engravings, a stand, and on this a glass of water. A few moments later, through an opening at the rear of the stage room presented, the lecturer appeared. When first seen a slight applause greeted him. Mr. Wilde advanced to the stand. He was dressed as he has been corricatured, in dress coat and vest of velvet, knee breeches, silk stockings and low shoes. His collar was turned down and beneath is was a knotted white silk tie. A diamond stud punctioned his broad shirt front, and from his waisteout a ribbon dangled. The poet wet tall yet his rounding shoulders, to at certain extent, modified his height. His long waving hair was parted in the middle and fell to his shoulders. His face was white, beardless and smiling. The features Irish, but not strong. His eye brows were delicate and arched. When he first stood before his audience, he rested on his right leg, with his his left to the rear him. back. His left hand thrown head lay upon the stand, with his right he played with his watch charm. During the evening he changed his rest time and again from his right to his left leg, and from left to right. Latter in the evening he held in his hand a handkerchief and toyed with it as does a bashful maiden. When not holding either his watch CHAQM OR HANDKERCHIEF his hand played with his coat tail. This he bobbed

up and down like a frisky lamb does its caudal appendage when running in a field. The delivery of the lecture was a perfect monotone, even his being delivered in humor emissions of the regular intonation. Throughout the delivery one was reminded of a college lad scanning the stanzas of Virgil. Once or twice he hesitated in his lecture as if forgetting what he dosired to say. This, however, may have been oceasioned by the action of some of those in the audience who kept up a continual whisper, beginning soon after the lecture commenced. This was annoying not only to the speaker, many of those present who desired to hear what the speaker had to say. It was 9:30 when he left the stage, walking with a jerking step and bowing bis head. passed from sight the audience remained seated. and after he had gone a few applauded. It had been advertised that the subject of the lecture was "The English Renaissance." The speaker decided to change his theme, however.

and last night spoke upon "Art Decoration." The lecture was pretty much the presentation, and poorly presented, of ideas advanced by Ruskin years ago. THE LECTURE. Mr. Wilde is in favor of elevating our handicraftmen. He claims that in order for the beautiful objects to be created, that are so pleasing to one's

eye, those that are engaged in their production

MUST HAVE SURROUNDINGS

such as will elevate their minds and fill them with

an inspiration to reach the highest point in their profession. He deprecated in the stronest terms the lack of taste that he said is so characteristic of many who are engaged in the decoration business in America. There was no discrimination or judgment shown. Soup plates were adorned with moonlight scenes and dishes with sun rising vistas. This was not, he said, artistic. There must be an appropriateness in all things, in dress, in manners and in art. Even in building we were deficient. Marble, that most beautiful of stone, which had made Venice the handsomest city in the world, was polluted by the use that is made of it in our country. It could be so adapted that in the construction of houses it would present a joyous and gratifying appearance to the eye. But, as Americans built marble houses with no relief whatever, nothing could be distasteful. There was nothing Mr. Wilde said that was too humble to be adorned by art. Wood could be so shaped and carved as to produce a thousand lovely objects. Switzerland the peasant boy, who all day was in the mountains looking after his flock, on his return home at night was taught by his father to cut out of wood many beautiful and quaint subjects, that were used to adorn the lowly home, and which added so much interest to the traveler to that picturesque country. The BOYS OF AMERICA should be similarly taught. Color was another branch of art to which Mr Wilde called attention. He spoke of the faste and skill that could be used in the proper blending of shade and tints. Under the head of color he included dress, and said that que should dress him-

pleasing to a refined and cultivated taste. Mr. Wilde spoke of the efforts that are being made by the school to which he belongs to reform public opinion in respect to art in Europe, and claimed that they had met with much encouragement from all fair-minded men and women. Ridicule they had expected, and of course had encountered, from those who had neither the sense nor the taste to appreciate the good work. But, haid Mr. Wilde, to all carpers I can say as Keats replied to a friend who wished him to dedicate his poems to the British public, in order to disarm criticism, "that for the public he did not care. All he recognized was the Eternal Being the memory of great men and the true principle's of beauty." America, added Wilde, had vast capabilities for art, There was no such thing as any particular school of art. It was often said that such a painting was in accordance with the Italian school. This was failacious. Italy never had a school where there was universal accord upon the rules of painting, but each particular locality had its special school, all perfect and complete in their way-and so it should be in America. Each portion of the country should have its institutions devoted to art, and should work for the great end of beautifying and enriching all that surrounds us. OSCAR TALKS. "Oscar Wilde and servant, of Ireland," was the entry in the Coates house register which attracted the æsthetic attention of a JOURNAL representative yesterday afternoon. His card was at once sent up to "parlor 3," and presently the pleasing intelligence was returned that "Mr. Wilde would receive the gentleman; would he please step up to the room." He would, and following the attendant the timid youth was

self so as to present an appearance that would be

presents a great contrast to the descriptions which have been published of him. In fact, he is anything but the consumptive being which has been caricatured in the East. Upon the reporter's entrance he closed a volume of Warder's poems, sent him during the day, which he spoke of being charming. "How do you like our Western country, Mr. Wilde?" asked the reporter, after the first greeting. am delighted with its beauties and find something every day to interest me," said the poet, speaking rapidly with rather

broad accent. "Everything is new, the people,

their ways and the country, all possess interest-

ing characteristics for study. California, with its

beautiful scenery, was especially delightful, and I

ushered into the presence of the great apostle of

the beautiful, who arose from a reclining position

upon a divan to greet his visitor. After shaking

hands with the worshipper of decorative art, the

reporter was invited to take a seat. The poet

had charming audiences, so large and appreciative, and continued so throughout the entire four lectures which I delivered in San Francisco I like the West-the people seem to be simpler and more readily understand than in the East. Now this state presents landscape so much more attractive than the sandy stretch of country between her. and Denver. I had a splendid reception; there, too. The audience was so cultured and refinede and gave such close attention. My audiences have been delightful." "What will be the subject of you lecture here?" "My lecture will be more particularly on the subject of 'Decorative Art,' although all my lectures are upon the general subject of 'English Renaissance, and where I only lecture once, I always give my attention especially to the decorative arts-the art of beautifying home. This is all Painting needs encouragement. that and poetry need no encouragement,

love them by nature, and people adore them as naturally as the bird sings. Ameriea's grand poets, Edgar Allen Poe, Longfellow. Bryant and Hawthorne, will live always, and people do not need to be asked to love them, No. it is the neglected arts of decorating that must be encouraged. By bringing the subject of the beautiful before the people we raise to a higher plane the handieraft of the mechanic the worker in fabrics, stones and metals. We would make the texture finer and the figures more beautiful in the first; the lines more graceful and flowing in the second; and in the last a greater artistic finish, and so in everything, calling for the same culture in their production as in the higher branches of art. I give my life to the study and spread of art; only three things which are interest me 'deeply, and they beauty of women, beauty divine: study of the beautiful."

art, and of heavity nature. I find much that excites my curiosity, but nothing which can surpass the "What did you think of your reception in Boston?" "That is a fair question," exclaimed the poet, as he leaned back upon the divan and laughed heart-I'v. "I can hardly say, however, that I have had a fair opportunity of judging a Boston audience. You remember the lark of those Harvard students-forty of them, who came in a body with and lilies. Well, of course, the audience. they and excited that and impatient hear eager were this demonstration. how I would receive But it ended in the usual way of the rash man

who put his head in the lion's mouth," and he

laughed again. "I had all the advantage, I could

and the same of th

talk and they were compelled to remain silent. I shall lecture there again on my return trip." "Have you received much annoyance from visitors or newspapers?

"Oh, no! If I do not wish to see visitors I don't. see them, that's all. I have had a number of callers to-day, but your are the first one I have admitted. I was very much fatigued and needed rest. I shall leave my card at Maj. Warder's in exchange for his. I feel grateful to him for his charming poem to me. The newspapers, of course, publish annoying burlesques, but they do not worry me. I read them all. It has one effect, and that is, it takes about ten minutes after appearance on the stage to dispel and clear away the mists concerning myself." "How soon will you return to England, and will you lecture there?"

"I can't possibly say when I shall return. I have

several pressing invitations to spend the summer

in this country. Henry Ward Beecher has invited me to spend a few months at his villa upon the Hudson, and Julian Hawthorne has to pay a kindly urged me and view the scenes his home and surroundings amid which his father worked. Both of these invitations I shall accept. As to lecturing, I think I shall most assuredly go upon the platform upon my return to England. But do you know that I lectured in New York the first time I ever appeared as a public speaker? The press have criticised my method almost universally. Now I am not a stump speaker and do not waive my hands and clinch fists at every semi-colon, but I feel that I have something of interest to say and have an intense desire to say it. My experiences have been delightful and I havn't suffered in the least from embarrassment. My first audience was composed of 8,000 people and I felt encouraged had to go-if the house empty benches the result might have been different. I do not think there is a household in England but what has been influenced by our art, and I believe that in time it will be the same in America." In conclusion Mr. Wilde spoke of the rapid

growth of Kansas City, and laughing said, that scu cities were built in this country in the same length of time that it took to binild houses in England. LOVE AND MARRIAGE.

Old Maids Make the Best Boarding House

Keepers. Prof. A. E. Willis delivered a lecture in St.

Louis last week on the subject of 'Love and Marriage." According to the Republican, before commencing his remarks he exhibited a skull and pointed out phrenologically all the peculiar characteristics of the person who carried it around. He endeavored to show where the love part of the brain was, and then commencing his lecture proper he said he wanted to speak of the power of love. No such man as Brigham Young, in his opinion, had any love in him. He had too many wives. To fall in love people must feel as if they could caress and embrace each other. Some

girls like to hug and kiss, and others didn't care a cent about it. It all depends upon the organ of conjugality. Some married people never kissed each other, while some were very fond of kissing. Couples often got along well enough, but there was not that congeniality between them that should exist between man and wife. Love, he contended, was in its very nature attraction or magnetism. "Love-what is love? 'Tis the striving of two spirits to be one."

Many people, he added, were apt to be mis-

taken in their affections. There were lots of it in the United States which he attributed to novel reading, the latter producing too much sentimentalism. He then described the average young couple going through a siege of courting, and said there was just as much difference between black and white. Love blinded most folks. If a girl was in love to a man she became blind to his faults. A second test of love was that lovers were always be unhappy if not in each other's presence. The th third test was if you were in love with a person you would die for him. Such facts were good evidences. Love he regarded as a boon of happiness. Let an old maid fall in love and her eyes would sparkle and she would look ten years younger. She would become a changed being. He was just a little severe on old maids, for he said the most of them were sour. They made the best boarding house keepers, though, in the world. The great object of modern courtship, he continued, was to get acquainted, marry and fool each other. He pointed out the deception

riage. He claimed, in conclusion, that in all questions of marriage the facial expressions should be studied. Men and women ought to know about human nature.

AN INGENIOUS MACHINE.

From the Washington Post. Mr. Melone Wheless, of New Offeans, has recently invented a very ingenious machine

graphic Reporting.

for reporting, by which he claims to be able to

report 200 words per minute, the words so

reported containing all the vowel and consonant sounds. He has so arranged the language that any combination of sounds can be instantaneously produced by the mathematical permutations represented on the instrument. The reading of the record so made is not confined to the operator alone, as in stenography, but any one who is familiar with the table by le which the instrument is operated can readily translate any report produced. He not only claims superiority over short hand as to speed. but as to the perfect accuracy with which any one can report. The mathematical combinations are so ingeniously ar- ha ranged that no two permutations can po ever represent the same sound. Mr. Wheless, who is also an expert in telegraphy, claims W the speed of sending telegraphic messages, by his invention, can be increased from fifty, the average number of words per minute, to 200. and with as great accuracy as is attained by the present system of telegraphy. By the use of the machines so constructed, a speech, taken in congress, for instance, can be transmitted to New York, or any other distant point, so that a party at the register in New York will be able to read the speech while it is being spoken in Washington. Mr. Wheless has been employed at shorthand some ten years, devoting the past three years to the construction of his invention. Wit and Beauty Win the Millions. From the Philadelphia Times. The marriage of Sir Sidney Waterlow and Miss Margaret Hamilton was announced recently in a cable dispatch from Paris. The bridegroom is a wealthy printer of Loudon, formerly a member of parliament, and in 1873

his immense wealth it is mentioned that he has 25,000 tenants in London, and that he once spent \$250,000 from his private purse for the entertainment of the shah of Persia. He passed some time in Philadelphia as one of the British centennial commissioners and afterward came to America to visit Gen. Williams. Charles Crocker and other friends in California. While approaching Mr. Crocker's house he met a young woman with whom he fell in love at first sight. The young woman proved to be Miss Hamilton, the daughter of a widow in comfortable circumstances and at the same time a guest at the Crocker mansion. Miss Hamilton was witty as well as handsome. She went horseback riding with the baronet and beat him at billiards every time. Her charming manners and other excellent qualities so impressed Sir Sidney that at a dinner party shortly after the first meeting he proposed marriage. Miss Hamilton, accompanied by Mrs. Hearst, of San Francisco, went to Europe and lived for some months with various members of the Waterlow family, so that they might become acquainted with her, and journeying to Paris the other day married her millionaire lover. Russian Persecution of the Jews. Washington Special. The question of Jewish persecution in Rus- | i

sia will be brought before congress in some c shape some time this session. A resolu- i tion of sympathy is pending, and correspond- t ence has been called for and is being printed. | s The only way it can be reached by this r country is through the action of the Russian government in prohibiting Jews who are n American citizens from entering the country. | d This government, through diplomatic channels, recently remoustrated against such pro- t hibition, and the Russian minister of state, re- a torted that the United States government pro- t posed to do the same thing with regard to the Chinese, and that their policy was not e without precedent set by ourselves. We took | d the liberty to dictate who should not come within the boundary of our own jurisdiction, I and they expressed surprise that our govern- c ment should view with disfavor a policy which ! s

it saw fit to indorse for itself with reference to t any class or race of people. The steamer Alaska has arrived at Panama

with the remains of Minister Hurlbut on

board.

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